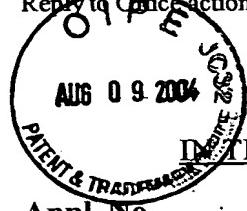


Appl. No. 09/777,044
Amtd. Dated August 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 8, 2004



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/777,044
Applicant : Yasufumi Ichikawa
Filed : February 5, 2001
TC/AU : 2684
Examiner: Tanmay S. Lele
Docket No. : 33241
Customer No.: 116

Confirmation No. : 8696

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AUG 12 2004

Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT "B"

Sir:

The three month response period for responding to the Office action of April 8, 2004 expired on July 8, 2004. Applicant hereby petitions and requests a one (1) month extension of time to extend the response period from July 8, 2004 through August 8, 2004. A check in the amount of \$110 is enclosed to cover the \$110 fee for a one (1) month extension of time. In response to the Office action of April 8, 2004, paper no. 9, and the personal interview conducted on July 15, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

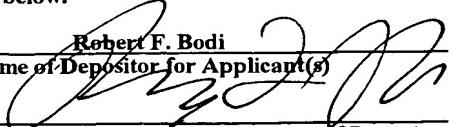
Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Robert F. Bodin
Name of Depositor for Applicant(s)

August 5, 2004

Date


Signature of Depositor